

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1872.

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# REPORT

ON THE

## Sanitary Condition

OF THE

WESTBURY URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT

## For the Year 1906.

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Presented to the Westbury Urban District Council by

**WALTER H. REED,**


Medical Officer of Health of the Westbury Urban

Sanitary Authority.

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# WESTBURY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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## REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the Westbury Urban District for the Year 1906.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Westbury Urban District Council.*

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GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the Urban District of Westbury.

The Area of the District is 3,528 acres.

The Population, at the Census of 1901, was 3,300, and the estimated population to the middle of the year 1906 was 3,370.

The Births registered during the year were : Males, 37 ; Females, 43 ; total, 80.

The Birth-rate per 1000 of the estimated population is 23·7.

The Deaths registered during the year were : Males, 31 ; Females, 34 ; total, 65.

The Death-rate per 1000 of the estimated population is 19·2

There were five deaths of Infants under one year of age, which gives a percentage of 62·5 on the registered Birth-rate per 1000.

Nineteen notifications of Infectious Diseases have been notified to me during the year, viz : Erysipelas, 9 ; Enteric Fever, 9 ; Puerperal Fever, 1.

The cases of Erysipelas were of the usual type and none of an epidemic character.

The case of Puerperal Fever occurred in Alfred Street and the patient recovered.

The cases of Enteric Fever commenced in August and were restricted to the lower part of the Town, viz., Alfred Street, Market Place, Cheap Street, and Fore Street. Seven cases were removed to the new Joint Isolation Hospital, Trowbridge, and two were treated at home. Three of the cases proved fatal. All the cases received their milk from two dairies. An analysis of the milk from both dairies however failed to produce any germs of Typhoid Fever. The water was from the town mains. This water was also analysed but found to be absolutely pure. The extremely hot weather might have caused the epidemic, but the circumscribed area where the cases occurred rather tends to shew that defective drainage was the cause. The stream from Bitham Factory is open at the lower part of the town, and is often foul. The cattle from the two dairies in question were fed on the pasture through which the stream runs.

In my last Report I referred to the starting of a Factory for the Dressing Skins at Eden Vale without the sanction of the Urban Council. I am glad to say that in March the matter was brought before the Magistrates, when it was decided that the business was injurious to Public Health. The works were therefore abandoned.

The common form Bye-laws for the regulation of Dairies and Milk-shops are now adopted. All Slaughterhouses and Bakehouses are now registered. All are in a satisfactory condition.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER H. REED.



Table 1.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1906 and previous Years.

| Year.                            | Population<br>estimated to<br>middle of<br>each year. | Births. |        | Deaths under<br>One Year of Age. |                                      | Deaths<br>at all Ages. |        |
|----------------------------------|---|---------|--------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|--------|
|                                  |   | Number. | Rate.* | Number.                          | Rate per<br>1000Births<br>registered | Number.                | Rate.* |
| 1900                             | 3337  | 82      | 24.5   | 17                               | 207.3                                | 68                     | 20.3   |
| 1901                             | 3300  | 66      | 20.0   | 7                                | 106.0                                | 66                     | 20.0   |
| 1902                             | 3300  | 69      | 20.9   | 6                                | 86.9                                 | 47                     | 14.2   |
| 1903                             | 3319  | 74      | 22.2   | 4                                | 54.0                                 | 55                     | 16.5   |
| 1904                             | 3339  | 82      | 24.5   | 8                                | 97.5                                 | 55                     | 16.4   |
| 1905                             | 3355  | 77      | 22.9   | 6                                | 77.9                                 | 61                     | 18.1   |
| Averages for<br>years 1900-1905. | 3325  | 75      | 22.5   | 8                                | 106.6                                | 58                     | 17.4   |
| 1906                             | 3370  | 80      | 23.7   | 5                                | 62.5                                 | 65                     | 19.2   |

\* Rates calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water).....3528.

Total population at all ages.....3300 }  
 Number of inhabited houses.....889 } At Census of 1901.  
 Average number of persons per house .....3.7 }

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.....Cottage Hospital.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.....

Combined infectious Hospital at Trowbridge.

Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.....None.

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? ..... Yes.

Table 2.—Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1906 and previous Years.

| Name of Locality. | Year.                                | Population<br>estimated to middle<br>of each year. | Births Registered. | Deaths at all Ages. | Deaths under 1 Year. |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| WESTBURY ...      | 1900                                 | 3337   | 82                 | 68                  | 17                   |
|                   | 1901                                 | 3300   | 66                 | 66                  | 7                    |
|                   | 1902                                 | 3300   | 69                 | 47                  | 6                    |
|                   | 1903                                 | 3319   | 74                 | 55                  | 4                    |
|                   | 1904                                 | 3339   | 82                 | 55                  | 8                    |
|                   | 1905                                 | 3355   | 77                 | 61                  | 6                    |
|                   | Averages<br>of Years<br>1900 to 1905 | } 3325   | 75                 | 58                  | 8                    |
|                   | 1906                                 |  | 80                 | 65                  | 5                    |

Table 3.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1906.

| Notifiable Disease. | Cases notified in whole District. |          |         |          |           |           |                 | No. of Cases removed to Hospital. |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
|                     | At all Ages.                      | At Ages. |         |          |           |           | 65 and upwards. |                                   |
|                     |                                   | Under 1. | 1 to 5. | 5 to 15. | 15 to 25. | 25 to 65. |                 |                                   |
| Erysipelas ...      | 9                                 | ...      | ...     | ...      | ...       | 9         | ...             | ...                               |
| Enteric Fever ...   | 9                                 | ...      | ...     | 4        | 2         | 3         | ...             | 7                                 |
| Puerperal Fever ... | 1                                 | ...      | ...     | ...      | ...       | 1         | ...             | ...                               |
| TOTALS ...          | 19                                | ...      | ...     | 4        | 2         | 13        | ...             | 7                                 |

Joint Isolation Hospital, Trowbridge.

Table 4.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1906.

| Causes of Death.              | Deaths in whole District at subjoined Ages. |                  |                   |                    |                     |                     |                    | Total Deaths<br>in Public<br>Institutions. |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--|
|                               | All Ages.                                   | Under<br>1 Year. | 1 and<br>under 5. | 5 and<br>under 15. | 15 and<br>under 25. | 25 and<br>under 65. | 65 and<br>upwards. |  |
| Enteric Fever ...             | ...   | ...              | ...               | ...                | ...                 | ...                 | ...                | 3  |
| Phthisis ...                  | 1   | ...              | ...               | ...                | ...                 | 1                   | ...                | ...  |
| Other tubercular diseases ... | 1   | ...              | ...               | ...                | ...                 | 1                   | ...                | ...  |
| Cancer, malignant disease ... | 7   | ...              | ...               | ...                | ...                 | 2                   | 5                  | ...  |
| Bronchitis ...                | 12  | 2                | 1                 | ...                | ...                 | 3                   | 6                  | ...  |
| Pneumonia ...                 | 1   | ...              | ...               | ...                | ...                 | 1                   | ...                | ...  |
| Heart disease ...             | 5   | ...              | ...               | ...                | ...                 | 3                   | 2                  | ...  |
| Accidents ...                 | 2   | ...              | ...               | ...                | ...                 | 2                   | ...                | ...  |
| All other causes ...          | 36  | 3                | 1                 | ...                | 2                   | 13                  | 17                 | ...  |
| All causes ...                | 65  | 5                | 2                 | ...                | 2                   | 26                  | 30                 | 3  |



Table 5.—Infantile Mortality during the Year 1906.  
Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under one Year of Age.

| Cause of Death.             | Under<br>1 Week. | Total<br>under<br>1 Month. | 1 to 2<br>Months. | 2 to 3<br>Months. | 7 to 8<br>Months. | Total Deaths<br>under 1 Year. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| All Causes—                 |                  |                            |                   |                   |                   |                               |
| Certified ...               | 1                | 1                          | 2                 | 1                 | 1                 | 5                             |
| Uncertified...              | ...              | ...                        | ...               | ...               | ...               |                               |
| Wasting Diseases—           |                  |                            |                   |                   |                   |                               |
| Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus | ...              | ...                        | 1                 | ...               | ...               | 1                             |
| Other Causes—               |                  |                            |                   |                   |                   |                               |
| Bronchitis ...              | ...              | ...                        | ...               | 1                 | 1                 | 2                             |
| Other Causes                | 1                | 1                          | 1                 | ...               | ...               | 2                             |
|                             | 1                | 1                          | 2                 | 1                 | 1                 | 5                             |

|   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Population, estimated to middle of 1906.....3370. |                               |
| Deaths in the year                                | { legitimate infants.....5    |
|   | { illegitimate infants .....0 |
| Deaths from all Causes at all Ages.....65.        |                               |

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1906.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—Inspection.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspector of Nuisances.

| Premises.        | Number of    |                  |               |
|------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|
|                  | Inspections. | Written Notices. | Prosecutions. |
| Factories ... .. | 8            | } Nil.           | } Nil.        |
| Workshops ... .. | 20           |                  |               |
| Total ... ..     | 28           | ...              | ...           |

2.—Defects Found.  
Nil.

3.—Home Work.

| Nature of Work.          | Lists received from Employers.<br>(Once in the year). |             | Number of Addresses<br>of Outworkers<br>forwarded to other<br>Councils. | Number of Inspections<br>of<br>Outworkers' Premises. |
|--------------------------|---|-------------|---|--|
|                          | Lists.  | Outworkers. |   |  |
| Glove Making, &c. ... .. | 3   | 688         | 393   | 50   |
| Total ... ..             | 3   | 688         | 393   | 50   |

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4.—Registered Workshops.

| Workshops on the Register at the end of the year. | Number. |
|---|---------|
| Bakehouses (none underground) ... ..              | 9       |
| Workshops ... ..                                  | 5       |
| Domestic Workshops ... ..                         | 6       |
| Total number of Workshops on Register ... ..      | 20      |

5.—Other Matters.

Nil.

WALTER H. REED, M.O.H.

# REPORT

of the Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances for the  
Year ending 31st December, 1906.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Westbury Urban District Council.*

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GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Report on the work of my department for the past year.

*Street Improvement Works.*—The whole of the street improvement works, for which a loan was taken up, have been completed with the exception of Cheap Street, where additional kerbing and paving have been decided on by the Council, and which will be proceeded with as soon as possible. The works have effected a considerable improvement in the appearance of the various streets, besides forming greater convenience for foot passengers.

*Main Roads.*—The repairs of the main roads have been carried out in the different sections requiring attention, and various footpaths have been well gravelled.

A widening of the road at the corner of Brook Street and Cheap Street has been effected by the setting back of the wall. A further improvement is proposed by setting back the wall on the opposite side.

The proposed widening in Warminster Road, which the Council has under consideration and which comprises setting back the whole of the wall in front of Dr. Reed's house and a portion of the wall bounding "The Vista" will at once do away with a dangerous and ugly corner, at the same time effecting a considerable widening of the road.

At the corner of Eden Vale Road and Penleigh Road the setting back of the Board of Guardians' fence and the line of Mr. Holdoway's new wall, and the laying out of same to a good curve will, when completed, constitute a decided improvement.

The drainage of the surface of the roads has been improved by the fixing of new gullies, particularly in Lower Road.

*District Highways.*—The district highways have been thoroughly repaired where necessary, Old Dilton Road and Brook Lane especially receiving attention, both these roads being in a very worn condition.



*Depôt.*—The Depôt at Station Road has been considerably enlarged by the renting of an additional portion of Mr. Burgess's Yard and several useful Sheds.

*Baths.*—The Annual Aquatic Sports were held at the Baths in September last, when a profit of £2 : 2 : 9 was realised, as against £2 : 2 : 10 the previous year.

*New Houses.*—During the year eight houses have been erected, an increase of four on the number the preceding year.

*Water Supply.*—Supplies for water from the town mains have been laid on to thirty-one houses, one Brickworks, one School, and the G.W.R. Station.

*Market Stallage.*—The revenue from the Market Stallages during the past year amounted to £11 : 13 : 6 compared with £17 : 1 : 0 the preceding year, but in the latter amount is included the payment of £8 : 0 : 0 from Mr. George Rusher for his stall for the past year.

*Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.*—Regulations relating to the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops in the Urban District have been made by the Council.

*Sewers and Drains.*—One new sewer has been laid in Lower Road and twenty-eight new drains and drains re-laid to houses.

*Sanitary.*—Twenty-seven notices dealing with various sanitary defects have been served, and the carrying out of their requirements duly enforced.

The Factories, Dairies and Slaughterhouses have been kept under observation.

The disinfection of all houses at which cases of infectious disease have occurred has been properly carried out.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. HARLEY RUSHTON,

*Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances.*



## URBAN DISTRICT OF WESTBURY.

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*Sanitary Inspector*—THOMAS HARLEY RUSHTON.

*Address*—Surveyor's Office, Westbury, Wilts.

*Whether whole time devoted to duties of Sanitary Inspector or not?*  
No.

*Date of Appointment*—August, 1906.

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### Summary of Work done in Sanitary Inspector's Department during year ending 31st December, 1906.

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*Prevention of Infectious Disease under direction of Medical Officer of Health.*

|  |     |     |   |
|--|-----|-----|---|
| No. of Cases inquired into             | ... | ... | 9 |
| No. of Houses Disinfected and Cleansed | ... | ... | 9 |
| No. of Patients removed to Hospital    | ... | ... | 7 |

*Houses.*

|             |     |     |     |     |   |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| No. Erected | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|

*House Drains.*

|  |     |     |     |                             |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----------------------------|
| No. Laid or Re-Laid  | ... | ... | ... | 28, and Sewer at Lower Road |
| No. Cleansed, Trapped, and Ventilated                      | ... | ... | ... | 2                           |
| No. of Defective Waste Pipes rectified                     | ... | ... | ... | 1                           |
| No. of Insanitary Lavatories, Sinks, and Urinals rectified | ... | ... | ... | 3                           |
| No. of Dumbwells rectified                                 | ... | ... | ... | 3                           |

*Water Closets.*

|  |     |     |   |
|--|-----|-----|---|
| No. of additional W.C's provided                           | ... | ... | 7 |
| No. Repaired, Ventilated, and supplied with Flush Cisterns | ... | ... | 5 |

*Privies and Ashpits.*

|  |     |     |     |   |
|--|-----|-----|-----|---|
| No. of additional Privies and Ashpits provided | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| No. converted to W.C's or Slop-Closets         | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| No. Repaired                                   | ... | ... | ... | 2 |

*Scavenging.*

The Authority does not remove  
House Refuse.

*Water Supply.*

|   |     |     |     |  |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--|
| No. of Wells Sunk                                       | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| No. of Houses Supplied from Waterworks<br>(during year) | ... | ... | ... | 31 Houses, 1 Brickworks,<br>1 School, and the G.W.R.<br>Station. |
| No. of Samples taken for Analysis                       | ... | ... | ... | 1  |

*Slaughter Houses.*

|                            |     |     |     |   |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| No. Registered or Licensed | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| No. Regularly Inspected    | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| No. Cleansed and Repaired  | ... | ... | ... | 7 |

*Dairies and Cowsheds.*

|   |     |     |     |   |
|---|-----|-----|-----|---|
| No. of Persons engaged in Milk Trade now<br>on Register and under Supervision . | ... | ... | ... | 14  |
| No. of Infected Milk Supplies reported by<br>the Inspector                      | ... | ... | ... | Samples taken and Analysed,<br>but none infected. |

*Factories and Workshops and Bakehouses.*

|                      |     |     |     |    |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| No. under Inspection | ... | ... | ... | 28 |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|

*Accumulation of Offensive Refuse.*

|                 |     |     |     |   |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| No. of Removals | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|---|

*Clerical Work.*

|                              |     |     |     |    |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| No. of Notices Served        | ... | ... | ... | 27 |
| No. of Notices complied with | ... | ... | ... | 27 |

